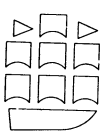
Nine New Fairy Stories

NINE NEW FAIRY STORIES

Simplified by Michael West

Illustrated by Hilda Boswell

500 word vocabulary



LONGMAN

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FAIRY
TOY
SHOP

1 *THROUGH THE FIRE*

JACK was a little boy. He lived in England. He could not walk because he had a bad back. His back had always been bad. He could not walk because his back was so bad.

He sat by the fire. He was very sad. His mother had gone out. He said: " I do not like being alone. I have no friend with me."

Then he heard someone speak: " I am here." He looked and he saw a small red fairy sitting on the fire. He said: " Who are you? " The fairy said: " I am a Fire-fairy."

" Oh," said Jack, " are there Fire-fairies? "

" Yes," said the fairy, " there are Fire-fairies and there are Water-fairies. I am a Fire-fairy. Do you want to see the Fire-country? "

" Oh, yes! " said Jack.

" Give me your hand," said the fairy.

But Jack said: " I shall be burned if I go into the fire."

" No," said the fairy, " you will not be burned. Give me your hand."

Jack took the hand of the fairy. As Jack held the fairy's hand he became smaller and smaller. The fire looked bigger and bigger. The fairy took Jack into the fire. On all sides Jack saw great hills burning. The fairy said: " Come with me. We will go down into the fire. We will see the Fire-King's house."

They went down through a hole in the fire, and they came to a beautiful garden. All the flowers in the garden were made of fire. They were like fireworks. There was a big house in the garden. Its walls were red and burning; and its doors and windows were made of fire.

The Fire-fairy went away. Jack sat in the garden of the King of the Fire-country. Then he saw a beautiful princess walking in the garden. She had burning eyes and her hair was very red like fire. She was very beautiful, but her face was very sad. She came near Jack. Jack said: "Oh, Princess, why are you so sad?"

She said: " I am sad because I love the Water-prince."

"Why do you not marry the Water-prince? " said Jack.

She said: " I do not marry the Water-prince because, if I take his hand, we shall die; for fire kills water and water kills fire."

Just then the Fire-fairy came back. He said: " You must not speak to the Princess. The King will be very angry. He is angry with the Princess because she loves the Water-prince. He wants her to marry a Fire-prince. If the King is told that you have spoken to the Princess, he will be very angry. Come quickly."

Then the Fire-fairy took Jack's hand and ran away very quickly. They ran up through the fire. Jack shut his eyes. . . .

When Jack opened his eyes he was in front of the fire. Jack looked at the fire for many days. He wanted to see the Fire-fairy again, but no Fire-fairy came.

There was rain. Jack looked at the rain falling outside. He wanted to see a Water-fairy, but he did not see one.

Then one night, Jack was sleeping in front of the fire. He heard someone speak. He opened his eyes and looked. He saw the Fire-princess sitting on top of the fire. There was fire all over her. She looked very beautiful.

" Put some more wood on the fire," she said. " I am cold."

" You are very beautiful," said Jack.

" Am I? " said the Princess. . . . " I want you to do something for me."

" Yes," said Jack, " I will do anything for you."

" I want you to tell the Water-prince to come and see me," said the Fire-princess.

" How shall I find him? " said Jack.

" Open the window and wait," said the Princess.

Jack opened the window. The rain came into the room. Then the Princess began to call. She called to the Water-prince. Then much rain came through the window. And out of the rain came the Water-prince. His eyes were blue like the sea. His hair was blue, and his clothes were blue like the blue water of the river.

When he saw the Fire-princess, he ran to the fire.

" Do not come too near! " cried the Princess, " or we shall die. There is one person who can help us—the Snow Man. He lives very, very far away in a country where there is always snow. We must send someone to him."

" Who can go to him? " said the Water-prince. " I cannot go. If I go to that country I shall become snow and die."

" I cannot go," said the Princess. " For if I go to that country I shall go out; fire goes out in the snow."

" I will go," said Jack. " But how can I get there? "

The Water-prince said: " I will call Wind-fairy. The Wind-fairy will take you to the Snow Man."

Then the Water-prince called. A cold wind came into the room: and out of the wind came a

little fairy.

" This is a Wind-fairy," said the Water-prince.

The Wind-fairy took Jack's hand and he jumped up. Jack went with him. They went out of the window. They went over the tops of the houses. They came to fields and hills. They went over the hills. They came to the sea. They went over the sea and they came to another land. They went over forests and rivers and cities. It became colder and colder.

They came to a great white sea. They went over the sea. Then they came to a far country which was covered with snow. Then the Wind-fairy went down—down—down. On the top of a hill sat the Snow Man.

The Wind-fairy said to Jack: " You may ask the Snow Man one thing. Do not ask him more than one thing. If you ask him more than one thing, he will kill you. He is a very bad man; but he knows everything."

Jack went to the Snow Man. The Snow Man said: " Who are you? You have come to ask something. Everyone who comes to me asks something. Do you want to know what to do for your bad back? Do you want to know what you must do so as to walk and run like other boys? "

" No, I do not want to ask that," said Jack.

" I come from the Fire-princess. She wants to marry the Water-prince, but if they marry they will die. For water kills fire and fire kills water."

" Oh, no, no, no," said the Snow Man, " if they marry they will not die."

" What must they do? " said Jack.

The Snow Man said: " Tell the Water-prince to take the Fire-princess's hands in his hands and to say, ' I love you.' Then he will not die and she will not die. Now ask me some other thing."

" No," said Jack, " I will not ask any other thing."

Then the Snow Man was very angry. Jack ran away. He took the Wind-fairy's hand and they went up—up—up. They went over seas and countries and hills and rivers and forests, and they came back to Jack's room.

The Fire-princess was sitting on top of the fire. The Water-prince was standing near. " What must we do? " said the Fire-princess. " Tell me what we must do."

Then Jack said to the Water-prince: " You must take her hands in your hands and you must say, ' I love you.' Then you will not die."

" But we shall die! " said the Princess. " Water puts out fire and fire puts out water."

" No," said the Prince. " We shall each of us be

changed, but we shall not die."

Then the Princess came down from the fire; and the Prince went to the Princess and took her hands and said: " I love you." There was a great noise and Jack looked and saw the Prince and Princess standing there.

The Princess's eyes were not like fire. They were like a woman's eyes. Her hair was not so red. It was like a woman's red hair. The Prince's eyes were not blue like water. They were like a man's eyes.

They said: " Thank you, Jack. We shall remember." And hand in hand they walked to the window and went out into the night.

Jack looked at the fire each night. He wanted to see a Fire-fairy. But he did not see one. He looked at the rain. He wanted to see a Water-fairy. But he did not see one.

One night he was in his bed. He had been sleeping. The window was open. He looked at the window, and saw the Fire-princess and the Water-prince: they came through the window into the room. They said: " Jack, we have come back. We have brought you something. We have brought you a coat. We made this coat for you. A wizard (a magician) showed us how to make it.

If you put on this coat you will walk and run like other boys."

Then Jack put on the coat. When he put on the coat he could not see the coat any more, because it was a fairy coat. His back was not bad any more. He could walk and run. He was very happy. He said to the Fire-princess and the Water-prince: "Thank you. Thank you very much."

They said: "Do not thank us. We thank you. We are very happy."

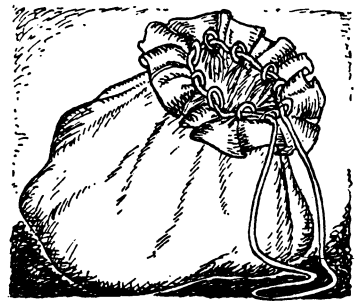
Then hand in hand, the Fire-princess and the Water-prince went to the window, and out into the night.

2 *THE CAT WITH SHOES*

ONCE there was a man. He had three sons and he had a house, and a donkey, and a cat. When he died he gave the house to one son, the donkey to the other son, and the cat to the other son. The other son (who got the cat) was called Tom. Tom was very kind to the cat. The cat loved Tom.

Tom said: "What can I do with a cat? No one wants to buy a cat!"

Then the cat opened one eye, and then it opened the other eye, and then it said: " I want to help you. I have thought how I can help you. You must buy some shoes and a bag for me. Buy two shoes and a bag for me; then you shall have many beautiful clothes and live in a big house and marry a princess."



Then Tom got some shoes and a bag and gave them to the cat. The cat put the shoes on his feet, and he put some bits of bread in the bag. Then he put the bag in the forest, and he hid.

After a little time a rabbit came and walked

into the bag to get the bread. Then the cat quickly shut the bag and the rabbit was caught. Then the cat took the bag, and he went to the King's house. The King came into the room, and the cat said: " Oh King, I am a servant of the Great Prince Tom. He sends you this rabbit."

The King said: " Who is Prince Tom? "

The cat said: " Prince Tom! Have you never heard of the Great Prince Tom? Everyone has heard of Prince Tom! "

" Oh, yes," said the King. " I have heard of Prince Tom. Thank Prince Tom for the very nice rabbit."

On the next day the cat caught some birds in the forest, and he took the birds to the King's house and said: " Oh King, Prince Tom sends you these birds."

The King said: " Thank Prince Tom for the birds. Thank him very much."

Then the cat heard one of the King's servants speaking. The servant said: " To-day the King will ride by the river with the Princess."

Then the cat ran back very quickly and said to Tom: " Go to the river and jump into the water, but put your clothes by the side of the river."

So Tom put his clothes by the side of the river

and jumped into the water. And the cat took away his clothes.

Then the King came riding by the river with the Princess. Just as the King came to the place where Tom was in the water, the cat cried: " Help! Help! Save Prince Tom! "

The King saw Tom in the river. He saw the cat. He remembered the cat. He said to one of his servants: " Save Prince Tom! "

The King's servants took Tom out of the river. Then the cat said: " Oh! Oh! Some man has taken Prince Tom's clothes! Prince Tom has no clothes. Give the Great Prince Tom some clothes! "

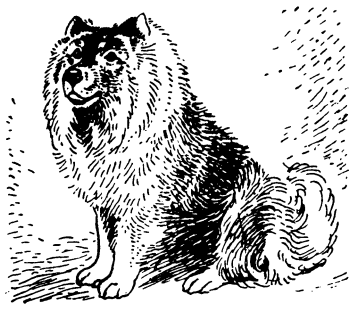
Then the King said: " Give Prince Tom some beautiful clothes."

So Tom got some beautiful clothes as the cat had said.

Near that place there was a very big house on the top of a hill. A giant lived in that house. The giant was a magician (a wizard). He was able to make himself into* a lion, or a dog or a bear

* *make himself into* = make himself become.

or a bird, or anything.



The cat went to the giant's house. He went into the great hall of the house. Then the giant came; and the cat said: "Many men have spoken about you. I have heard that you are a great magician. Men say that you can make yourself into any beast or bird. You cannot make yourself into a lion."

The giant said: "I *can* make myself into a lion."

"I do not think you can," said the cat.

"I can and I will!" said the giant. So he made himself into a lion, and the cat was very much afraid and ran away.

Then the cat said: "Yes, you can make yourself into a lion. But you cannot make yourself into a mouse."

"I can! I can!" said the giant. "I can make myself into a mouse."

"I do not think you can," said the cat.

"I can and I will!" said the giant. So he made himself into a mouse. Then the cat jumped on the mouse and ate it. So the cat killed the giant!

Just then the King and the Princess and Tom were coming along the road near the giant's house.

Then the cat ran to the door of the house and opened it just as the King and the Princess and Tom were coming by.

" Oh King," said the cat. " Come in ! Come into Prince Tom's house! "

Then the King and Prince Tom and the Princess came into the house. And the cat showed the King and the Princess all the beautiful rooms and the beautiful garden; and the King was very pleased. The Princess said: " What a beautiful house! What a beautiful garden! "

After some time Tom married the Princess, and they lived in the giant's house. After the King died, Tom became King. And the cat slept by the fire and was very happy.

3 *THE VILLAGE OF GOLDEN SPIDER'S WEB*

There was a village on a hill. Its name was Arra; but men called it the Village of Golden Spider's Web because the women of that place made beautiful cloth. The cloth was so beautiful that it was like a golden spider's web.

In that country men said: "You must have the door shut and the fire burning on the night before the New Year. If the door is open and the fire is not burning, Percta and her dog will come in; and Percta will be angry and bad things will come."

Percta was a fairy. She walked about on the night before the New Year, and she had a white dog.

There was a girl called Florice; she lived in this village. Her mother made beautiful cloth; but women did not buy the cloth which she made. They did not want good cloth. They did

not want to buy good cloth; they wanted bad cloth. Florice's mother said: " Women do not want good cloth now. They do not buy my cloth. I will not make any more cloth and I will not tell you, Florice, how to make any more cloth."

Florice's mother died, and she did not tell Florice how to make the cloth. There was no more Golden Spider's Web, and no one knew how to to make it.

There was a man called Philip. He loved Florice, but he was very poor. Philip and Florice could not be married because they were very poor.

The King of that country was on a journey. He saw the Village of Golden Spider's Web. He said to one of his men: " What is that village? "

The man said: " It is the Village of Golden Spider's Web."

" Why do they call it that? " said the King.

" They call it the Village of Golden Spider's Web because the women of the village make beautiful cloth there: the cloth is made of gold and it is like a spider's web," said the man.

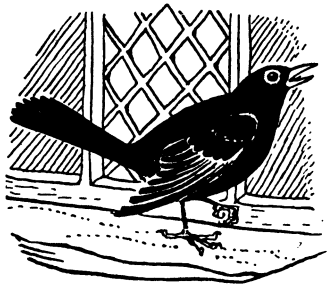
The King said: " I want some of that cloth."

The man went to all the houses and he said: " The King wants some Golden Spider's Web."

But the women said: " There is no golden

cloth now. We do not know how to make it."

Then the King said: " I will give much money to anyone who will bring me some of the golden cloth; and I shall be very angry if they do not bring me some golden cloth. I shall be angry because they are lazy! "



Now Florice had a cat and two hens and a bird. The bird was a blackbird. It was the night before the New Year. The cat was asleep. Then the cat opened her eyes and said: "*Psst*! The fire is going out." Then she called: " Mr. Blackbird! "

" What do you want? " said Mr. Blackbird.

" The fire is going out," said Mrs. Cat. " Go and bring wood; and tell the hens to come."

So Mr. Blackbird went to get wood and to tell the hens.

Then the door opened and the two hens came in. They said: " What do you want, Mrs. Cat? "

Mrs. Cat said: " The fire is going out. Stand in front of it and make it burn."

So the two hens stood in front of the fire and made it burn.

When the fire was burning well, Mrs. Cat

said: " We are very poor. What shall we do? "

Mr. Blackbird said: " The King wants Golden Spider's Web and will give much money for it. I would make Golden Spider's Web, but I do not know how to do it."

Mrs. Cat said: " You are a man. You cannot make Golden Spider's Web with those hands! I am a woman. I could make Golden Spider's Web; but I have too much work to do."

Mr. Blackbird said: " Philip wants to marry Florice. They cannot marry because they are poor."

Then one hen said: " I am poor; and I am not married."

The other hen said: " My sister is poor; she is not married. I am poor and I am not married. We are two sisters and no one wants to marry us! "

Then the door of the house was opened and a white dog came in. Mrs. Cat jumped up on to the table. Mr. Blackbird went up over the window. The two hens ran away.

The dog said: " I am Percta's dog. Your door is open and this is the night before the New Year. I shall tell Percta."

Mrs. Cat said: " We made the fire burn. But we did not remember to shut the door. Tell Percta that we are very poor."

" Why are you poor? " asked the dog.

" We are poor because the women do not buy golden cloth, and the mother of Florice did not tell Florice how to make any more of it. Now the King wants golden cloth, and no one can make it. "

The dog went to Percta and said: " The door of Florice's house was open. Please do not be angry; the cat, the blackbird and the two hens made the fire burn. So do not be angry. They say that they are poor because Florice's mother died and did not tell Florice how to make the golden cloth. Now the King wants golden cloth, and no one can make it."

" Oh! " said Percta. " I will call Florice's mother."

Then he said to the little white dog: " Go and jump on Florice's bed."

Florice was sleeping. Something jumped on her bed. She woke up. She heard a little noise in the other room. She saw her mother there. Her dead mother had come back. Her mother was working. She was making Golden Spider's Web. Florice went and sat near her. She saw how her mother made the golden cloth. Her mother worked all night. Then the day came and her mother went away.

Then Florice sat down and made Golden Spider's Web. And the King's men came and gave Florice much money for the golden cloth which she had made. And they told her to make much Golden Spider's Web for the King.

So Florice sat making Golden Spider's Web. And Philip came through the garden. He said: " A happy New Year to you, Florice! "

And Florice said: " A happy New Year to you, Philip! This year will be very happy because we can be married now."

4 *THE BREAD OF UNHAPPINESS*

Once there was a baker. The baker was not a good man. When his bread was not good he became very angry, and threw the bread out of the

window. His wife and children were afraid.

One day the baker's bread was very bad and the baker was very angry. Just then a little fairy came into the room. The fairy said: " I want to live in your oven.* I will live in the oven in which you bake bread. If I live in the oven your bread will always be good; but you must not eat it."

" Why must I not eat the bread? " said the baker.

" You must not eat the bread," said the fairy, "because it is the bread of unhappiness.* It is good bread. It is nice bread. Women will buy it. But all who eat the bread will become unhappy. My bread makes everyone unhappy."

Then the fairy went into the oven and the baker baked some bread. It was beautiful bread. When the bread was ready, he went out. He took the bread in his cart to the houses.

Mr. Aye was a shoe-maker. Mrs. Aye got some of the baker's bread. She put the bread on the table.

Mr. Aye came into the room to eat. " I am very happy," said Mr. Aye. " I have made good

* An oven is the place in which a baker bakes (cooks) bread.

* *bread of unhappiness* = the bread which makes those who eat it unhappy.

shoes to-day. Many people* buy my shoes."

Then he ate some of the bread. The bread made him unhappy. " No, no," he said, " I am not happy. My shoes are not good: they are very bad shoes. My wife and my children are not good. This house is not good. I am very unhappy."

Mr. Bee was a fisherman. Mrs. Bee bought some of the baker's bread. She put it on the table.

Mr. Bee came into the room to eat. He sat down. " Ha! Ha! " he said, " I am very happy. I am happy because I have caught a big fish. There are many other big fishes in the river. I have a good wife. I have a good son. I am very happy."

Then he ate some of the bread.

" No, no," he said, " my wife is bad. My son is a bad boy. No one will buy my fish. There are no more big fishes in the river. I am very unhappy."

Mr. Cee made clothes for the people. Mr. Cee bought some of the bread.

Mr. Cee came into the room to eat. He said: " I am very happy because I have made a beau-

* *people* = men and women, persons. One person, two people.

tiful coat. The King has asked me to make a coat for him. It is ready now. It is a beautiful coat. I have made flowers on it and it is very beautiful. I have a beautiful wife and two beautiful girls, and a beautiful house and a beautiful garden. I am very happy."

Then he ate some of the bread. He said: " The King has asked me to make a coat for him. I have made a coat. It is a bad coat. The King will be angry. He will kill me. My wife was beautiful, but she is not beautiful now. I have two girls. They are not beautiful. No one will marry them. My house is ugly. My garden is ugly. I am very unhappy."

Mr. Aye, Mr. Bee and Mr. Cee saw the baker walking in the street. The baker was very happy because he had sold all the bread. He had not eaten any of his bread; so he was happy. He was walking along the street looking very happy.

Mr. Aye, Mr. Bee and Mr. Cee said: " We are all unhappy, but the baker is happy. Why is he happy when we are not happy? We will go and burn his house! "

So Mr. Aye, Mr. Bee and Mr. Cee went and burned the baker's house.

When the baker's house was burning, the fairy came out of the oven and ran away.

As soon as the fairy ran away, Mr. Aye, Mr. Bee and Mr. Cee were happy again and said: " Why are we burning the baker's house? The baker is a good man and we are good men. We are all very happy. We want the baker to be happy. Why are we burning his house? "

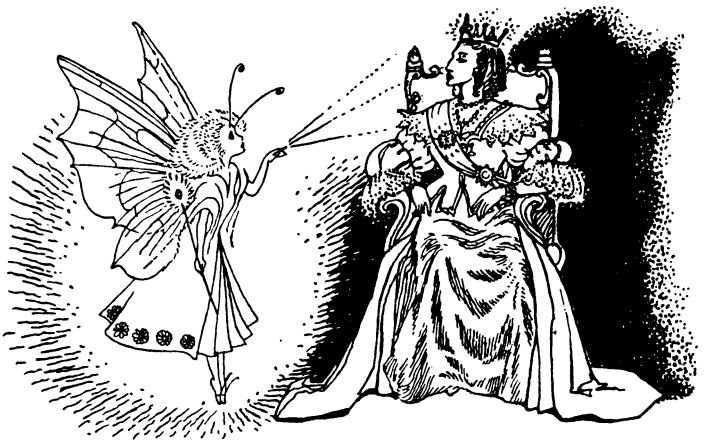
Then they ran and got water and threw the water on the fire. They made a nice new house for the baker. The fairy did not come back to the baker's house.

The baker made bread. Some of his bread was good bread and some of it was bad. But he did not become angry. He said: " There is good bread and there is bread which is not so good. There are good days and there are days which

are not so good. But no bread is bad and no days are bad if we are happy."

So everyone in the village ate the baker's bread. Sometimes it was good bread and sometimes it was bad bread, but they were always very happy.

5 *THE HEART OF PRINCESS ALICE*



ONCE there were a King and a Queen. The Queen was not a nice Queen; she was very cold: she did not love anyone. She had a child called Alice. The fairies did not like the Queen. They said: " She is cold, and she does not like us."

One night the Queen was sitting near Princess Alice. The Queen said: " I want no one's help.

I am Queen of this country. I can do what I want. I can do everything."

Just then a little blue fairy came into the room. The fairy said: "You cannot do everything, O Queen. You will want help very much. I shall take something from the Princess Alice. On the next night after this I shall take away something and you cannot get it back."

Next night all the King's servants stood near the Princess Alice. The Queen said: "No one shall take anything from my child." When it was near day, the Queen heard a little noise. She saw something come out of the little child. It looked like a little red bird. It went up—up; it went out of the window. It was gone. The child went on sleeping.

The Queen saw the little blue fairy sitting on the window. "What have you taken?" said the Queen. But the little blue fairy went away.

Princess Alice grew up and became a very beautiful woman, but she was very cold. She loved no one. She was never happy. She was never sad. She loved no one, and no one loved her. She was not kind to anyone. She had no friends.

Now, in the next country there was a Prince. The Prince's name was Peter. Prince Peter was a very nice prince. He was very good. He was very kind. Everyone loved Prince Peter.

In this country there was a big hill. On the top of the hill there was a little house. In the house lived a magician. The King and Queen were afraid of the magician, but the Prince was not afraid of him. He was a friend of the magician.

Prince Peter went to the magician's house many times. The magician had very many books. There was one book that Prince Peter liked to look at. In that book there were pictures of men and women. These pictures walked about. They looked as if they were alive.

One day Prince Peter was looking at the pictures in the magician's book. He saw a picture of a beautiful princess.

Prince Peter said to the magician: "Who is that princess?"

The magician said: "I will not tell you the name of that princess. She is not a good princess.

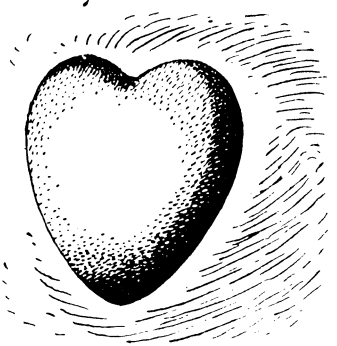
She will not make you happy."

But Prince Peter wanted to see the princess. At last the magician said: "That is Princess Alice." Then Prince Peter went to his father and said: "I will go and see the Princess Alice."

So he put on the clothes of a poor man and went to the house where Princess Alice lived with her father the King. Princess Alice was in the garden. Prince Peter looked at the Princess. She did not speak kindly to anyone. She was not happy. She was not sad. She was cold.

Prince Peter went back to the magician's house on the top of the hill and said: "Tell me, why is Princess Alice so cold? Why does she not love anyone? Why is she not kind?"

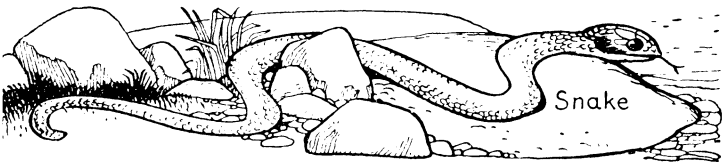
The magician said: "A fairy came when she was a little girl and took away the Princess's heart. She has no heart. That is why she does not love anyone."



"Where is her heart?" said the Prince.

The magician said: "You must journey for many days. You must go over blue hills and a

blue sea. You will come to a blue house near a river. Outside the house there is a great blue snake. You must work for the snake for three



years. After three years the snake will open the door of the house and you may go in. You must not speak to anyone in the house. In the house there is the heart of Princess Alice."

Then Prince Peter journeyed for many days and he came to a great blue sea. He went over the blue sea, and he came to the blue hills. He went over the blue hills and came to a blue house near a river, and near the house there was a great snake. He said to the snake: " I will work for you for three years. Then you will open the door of the house."

Prince Peter worked for three years. He worked for the snake every day and he spoke to no one. After three years Prince Peter began to look very old. Then he said to the snake: " Are the three years done? "

" After three days the three years will be done," said the snake.

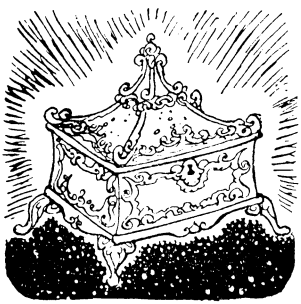
Then after three days the snake opened the door of the house and Prince Peter went in.

When Prince Peter went into the house, a beautiful Queen came to him and said: "I am the Queen of this country. Who are you?" But Prince Peter did not speak.

She said: "Come, you want to eat." Prince Peter did not speak. He did not eat.

Then the Queen was very angry; and she went away.

Prince Peter went through many rooms, and at last he came to a big door made of gold. He opened it and went into the room. The room was very cold. There was a table in the room. On the table there was a golden box. And near the box there was a key. Prince Peter took the key. He opened the box. In the box there was a little heart. It was the heart of Princess Alice.



Then Prince Peter took the golden box. He journeyed for many days. He journeyed across the blue hills. He came to the blue sea. He went over the blue sea and he came to the city of the

King who was the father of Princess Alice.

There were many people in the street. He asked: "Why are there so many people in the street?"

A man said: "To-day the Princess Alice will be married. An old ugly King will marry her. She is cold. She is not kind to anyone. I do not think that the King will be happy, but he is old and she must marry someone."

Prince Peter went to the King's house. He said to the servants: "I want to go into the King's house. I have something for the Princess Alice. I will give something to the Princess Alice."

The servants said: "You are a poor man. You cannot go in because you are a poor man. You have the clothes of a poor man."

Prince Peter sat down near the door of the King's house. The King came out. The Princess Alice was with the King. She was going to be married.

Then Prince Peter took her hand and said: "O Princess, I have got something for you. Take it."

He opened the golden box and the little heart came out. It went into the Princess Alice.

Princess Alice looked at Prince Peter. She

said: " I will marry this man. I love this man because he brought me back my heart."

So Prince Peter married the Princess Alice and he loved her very much.

And she loved him.

6 *SIEGFRID AND HANDA*

NEAR a big forest there was a little village. All the people in that village were very happy. They worked hard. They were never ill. The children were all big and happy.

In that village lived a shoe-maker called Ralph. Ralph had a son called Siegfrid. There was a man named John. John made clothes. John had a little girl called Handa. Siegfrid

said: " When I grow up, I shall marry Handa." And Handa said: " When I grow up I shall marry Siegfrid."

One day an ugly old man came along the road. He had many shoes on his back. He sat down in the village and he said: " Come buy! Come buy! Shoes for all! Red shoes and blue shoes! White shoes! All shoes! "

The men and women of the village would not buy. They said: " Old Ralph makes shoes. He makes good shoes. We will buy Ralph's shoes. We will not buy shoes from the ugly old man."

There was a girl called Lisbeth. She was beautiful. She liked to hear everyone say: " How beautiful Lisbeth is! " She saw the ugly old man's shoes. They were very pretty shoes. She said: " I will buy some of those shoes." Lisbeth had a friend called Alice. When Alice saw Lisbeth's shoes, she said: " I will buy shoes from the ugly old man." And soon all the people in the village were buying shoes from the ugly old man.

Ralph was very sad. No one was buying shoes from him. He did not know how to get food because no one was buying his shoes. Siegfrid was sad too. And Handa was sad because

Siegfrid was sad.

Then bad things began to come to the village. There was no rain. Many men and women were ill. The cows in the fields were ill. The trees and the flowers were killed by the sun. Everyone became very unhappy.

One day Lisbeth's father ran out into the street. He said: " Lisbeth has gone! I cannot find her! " The people looked in all the houses; they looked in all the fields; they looked in the forest. No one could find Lisbeth.

The next day Alice had gone. And soon after that another girl went; and soon all the girls in the village had gone. Handa was the only girl still left in the village. The people said: " Where have our little girls gone? They have all been taken away. Why has not Handa been taken away too? "

Handa had no shoes. Ralph and Siegfrid had no shoes to give her. Then Siegfrid went to get some shoes for Handa. He got the shoes from the little old man. He gave the shoes to Handa. The next day Handa was gone.

Siegfrid went into the forest. He said: " I will look for Handa and I will find her. If I do not find Handa I shall die." In the forest he

saw a rabbit. The rabbit was sitting on a big stone. Someone had shot it. It could not walk. Then Siegfrid helped the rabbit, and the rabbit was very pleased.

The rabbit said to Siegfrid: " You are looking for Handa. She is with all the other little girls of the village."

" Where are they? " said Siegfrid.

" They are in a big hole—far down. They cannot run away because they have the little old man's shoes on their feet. Those are fairy shoes. The ugly little old man is a bad fairy. He catches little girls. If he cannot catch little girls, he will die."

" How can I get Handa back? " asked Siegfrid.

The rabbit said: " You must get all the shoes in the village, and you must put them on top of a big stone and you must burn them. When all the shoes are burnt, you will see some golden shoes in the place where the fire was. Put the golden shoes on your feet. When you have put on the golden shoes, you must hit the big stone three times with your foot. The stone will open. Go down into the hole and you will find Handa. Take the fairy shoes from her feet and she will come with you."

" How can I get all the shoes in the village?" said Siegfrid.

The rabbit said: " My friends the rats will help you."

Then he called, and a big rat came. He was the King of the rats. The rabbit said: " Oh, King Rat, please bring all the shoes in the village here to-night."

When night came Siegfrid went into the forest. He sat down there. He saw hundreds of rats

bringing shoes from the village. Soon all the shoes had been brought from the village. Then Siegfrid put all the shoes on top of a big stone and burned them.

When all the shoes had been burnt Siegfrid looked at the stone and saw two golden shoes.

He put the golden shoes on his feet. He hit the big stone with his foot. The stone opened and there was a big hole. He went down into the hole and there he saw Handa and all the other little girls. They looked as if they were asleep. Their eyes were shut. Siegfrid took *off* Handa's shoes. Handa opened her eyes and jumped up. Then Siegfrid and Handa took off all the little girls' shoes. And the little girls jumped up and they all ran out of the hole.

Siegfrid and the little girls ran back to the village. The people in the village were very pleased when they saw them. When Siegfrid told them about the ugly little old man, they were very angry. They ran to the place where the ugly old man sat. They said: " We will catch him! "

They came to the place where the little old man sat. The ugly little old man's eyes were shut. They saw that he was dead. They did not kill him—because he was dead.

After that the village was happy again. Rain came. The flowers were beautiful again. The children were big and happy, and everyone bought Ralph's shoes. Siegfrid married Handa. They were very happy. When Ralph became old, Siegfrid made shoes for all the people in the village.

7 *THE HIDDEN PRINCESS*

ONCE there was a princess. She was called Ann. The Princess Ann loved hiding. She hid in the garden and her friends came and found her. Then her friends hid and she found them. She loved hiding and being found.

The Princess grew up. The King, her father, said: " You must be married. Which prince do you want to marry? "

The Princess said: " I want to marry a prince who likes hiding and being found, and finding me when I hide. I will marry the prince who can find me when I hide."

Then the King said: " The Princess will marry the prince who can find her when she hides."

Many princes came. Each day about six or seven princes came. And the Princess hid. They looked for the Princess everywhere, in all the rooms of the house, in all the huts, in all the garden; but none of the princes found her.

There was a prince whose name was John. He was a prince, but he was very poor. He loved the Princess and he wanted to marry her; and the Princess liked Prince John. Prince John came with the other princes to look for the Princess, but he could not find her. He was very sad. He went away, and he sat down at the side of the road.

As he sat there, an old woman came along the road. She said: "Who are you? Why are you sitting by the side of the road? Why are you sad?"

Prince John said: "I am sad because I could not find the Princess Ann. I wanted to marry the Princess."

The old woman said: "Go back and look for the Princess again. . . . How many princes came to look for the Princess with you?"

Prince John said: "Six other princes and I were looking. There were seven princes looking for the Princess."

The old woman asked: "Were there seven

princes looking for the Princess? Were there more than seven princes looking for the Princess? I ask you that!"

"I do not know," said Prince John. "Six princes came with me to look for the Princess."

Prince John went back. There were seven princes looking for the Princess on that day—Prince John and six other princes. They went into the big hall. The King said: "The Princess has hidden. You can go and look for her now."

All the princes went out. And they looked for the Princess everywhere, in all the rooms in the house, in all the huts, in all the garden; but none of the princes found her.

Prince John looked at the princes and he saw eight princes! He said: "Six princes came with me. There were seven princes. But now there are eight princes." He looked at the other prince; the other prince hid his face. The other prince was looking for the Princess in all the rooms, and in the huts and in the garden; but he did not show his face.

Then all the princes came to the King and one said: "O King, we cannot find the Princess."

And another said: " O King, we cannot find the Princess."

All the princes said: " O King, we cannot find the Princess."

Prince John said: " Six princes came with me; and I came. So there were seven princes looking for the Princess. But now there are eight. I have found the Princess: she is with us. There she is! She has the clothes of a prince, and she came with us to look for the Princess."

Then the Princess was very happy. She wanted to marry Prince John. So she married Prince John and they were very happy, and had many children. All the children loved hiding in the garden, and the Prince and Princess came to look for them; and they were all very happy.

8 *ALI AND THE PARROT*

THERE was a boy called Ali. Ali was very kind to birds.

One day he went out walking in the fields and he saw a bird near a tree. He had never seen a bird like that bird. It was red and blue and golden; it was a parrot. The bird could not run away: some man had shot it. Ali took the bird. He took it to his hut. He gave it water to drink. He gave it food to eat.

After many days the bird said: " I will go now."

" Can you speak? " said Ali.

" Yes," said the bird, " I can speak. I am a parrot. I can speak English. I am a fairy parrot.

You have been very kind to me. You shall speak English. Come with me into the forest. I will make you speak English."

Then the bird sat on Ali's arm and they went into the forest. And the bird said: " Sit near this tree and you will go to sleep." And Ali sat near the tree and went to sleep.

After a little time he opened his eyes. The bird had gone. Ali found that he could speak English beautifully. He went back to his home and his father said: " Ali, you speak English beautifully. Who made you speak English like that? "

Ali said: " I found a bird in the forest. Some man had shot it. I was kind to the bird and it made me speak English while I slept."

Ali went to school and the teacher said: "Ali, you speak English beautifully. I want all the boys to speak English like you."

Ali had a brother. His name was Abdul. Abdul was a bad boy. Abdul said: " I want to speak English like Ali. I will find this bird."

So Abdul took a gun and he went into the forest. He went far through the forest. Then he saw a red, blue and golden bird sitting on a tree. He shot at the bird.

The bird came down. " You are Ali's brother," it said. " What do you want? "

Abdul said: " I want to speak English. I want to speak as you do."

And the bird said: " Sit down near this tree and you will go to sleep, and I will make you speak as I do."

Then Abdul sat near the tree. He went to sleep. After some time he opened his eyes. The bird had gone. Abdul went home.

Ali and Abdul went to school. The teacher said to Abdul: " Can you speak English like your brother? "

" Yes," said Abdul, " I can speak English like my brother."

" I will hear you speak," said the teacher.

Abdul began to speak. He made a noise like a parrot when it is afraid. It was not English; it was just a noise. It was a very bad noise. (The parrot did not say: " I will make you speak English." It said: " I will make you speak as I do," —because Abdul was a bad boy.)

All the other boys in the school went into the forest to find the bird, but they never found it. It had gone away.

9 *THE TOY-PRINCESS*

ONCE there was a King. He was a very good King. He married a Queen. The Queen was a very happy Queen. The Queen had a friend who was a fairy. The name of the Queen's friend was Taboret. Taboret loved the Queen.

The Queen liked to play. She liked to talk. She liked to make a noise. The King was angry when the Queen played or made a noise. He said: " You are a Queen. You should not play. You should not talk. You should not make a noise."

After some time the Queen had a little princess. The name of the little princess was Ursula. When

Ursula came to the Queen, the Queen died.

The little Princess Ursula grew up. She was like her mother the Queen. She liked to play. She liked to talk. She liked to make a noise. But the King was angry when the Princess Ursula played. He said: " Do not make a noise. You must be a good little princess."

The Princess had no toys. She did not play, because her father the King was angry when she played. She did not talk because her father the King said: " Speak when you are spoken to." So Ursula said only " Yes," " No," " Please," " Thank you," and " Just so." The Princess was very sad. She said: " I cannot talk; I cannot play; I cannot make a noise. They say: ' You are a princess. Do not do this. Do not do that.' I must not do anything! "

Taboret came to see the Princess. She saw that the Princess was very sad. She saw that the King was angry with the Princess if she talked and if she played and if she did anything.

Then Taboret went away to a big toy-shop. This toy-shop was in the country of the fairies. In this toy-shop they made fairy toys. The man in the shop said: " What do you want? "

Taboret said: " I want a princess. I want a

princess like this."

" Yes, yes," said the man. " I have many toy-princesses in my shop, but I have no princess just like that. I must make one for you. I will make a princess for you just like that. Come back here after three days and the princess will be ready."

After three days Taboret went back to the shop and took the toy-princess. She brought it with her and she went to the King's house. It was night. The Princess was in her bed. She was not sleeping. She was very sad. She was crying.

Taboret came in through the window. Taboret said to the Princess: " I see that you are very sad. You shall come with me. I will take you to a fisherman's house. You can play there all day. You will be very happy. Will you come with me?"

The Princess said: " Yes, yes, I will come with you. But the King my father will be very sad if I go away."

Taboret said: " He will not know that you have gone. I will put a toy-princess in the bed."

The toy-princess was just like Ursula.

Ursula and Taboret went out of the window. They went over the sea and Ursula lived in the fisherman's hut and she was very, very, very happy.

Ursula grew up. She became a beautiful woman. As Ursula grew up the toy-princess grew up too because she was a fairy toy. The toy-princess was always just like Ursula. When she spoke she said: "Yes," "No," "Please," "Thank you," and "Just so." She never said any other thing.

The fisherman had a son. The son was called Oliver. Oliver wanted to marry Ursula.

One day Taboret come to the fisherman's hut. Ursula said: "Oliver wants to marry me. We must tell the King my father."

"Yes," said Taboret, "I will go to the King's house, and tell him that Oliver wants to marry you."

Taboret went to the King's house. The King was sitting with all the great men of the country. He was saying: "I am old. Soon I shall die. The Princess will be Queen, and I shall go away. The Princess is young, but she will be a very good Queen."

Then Taboret said to the King: "Come with me. I must tell you something." So the King went with Taboret and she said to him: "You must not make the princess Queen. That is not a princess! It is a toy!"

"A toy?" said the King. "A toy? Do you

say that my Princess Ursula is a toy? "

" Yes," said Taboret, " she is a toy. She is a fairy toy."

The King was very angry. He said to a servant: " Bring the Princess into the room. She is not a toy! "

Then the toy-princess came into the room. She was a very good princess. She spoke when she was spoken to. She said " Yes," " No," " Please," " Thank you," and " Just so." She never made a noise. She never played. She did just what she was told.

Taboret went to the toy-princess. She hit the

toy. Its head fell down. " Thank you," said the head. Taboret said: " That is the toy-princess.

She is a toy; I will bring you Princess Ursula. She shall be with you for seven days. You may see if you are pleased with her; and if you are not pleased with her I shall take her away. And if she is not pleased with you I shall take her away."

Taboret went and brought Ursula. Ursula came to the King's house. Ursula talked. But when she talked, the women in the King's house said: " Oh, oh, do not talk so much! Say ' Yes,' and ' No,' ' Please,' ' Thank you,' and ' Just so.' Do not say any other thing."

Ursula played. But everyone said: " Oh, oh, you must not play. You are a Princess."

Ursula ran in the garden and made a noise. But everyone said: " Oh, oh, you must not run in the garden. You must not make a noise. You are a Princess." The people in the King's house did not like Ursula.

Ursula was not happy in the King's house, and no one in the King's house liked Ursula. They said: " We do not want this Princess. Give our toy-princess back to us."

After seven days Taboret came back. She said to Ursula: " Do you want to be in the King's house? Are you happy? "

" No, no," Ursula cried. " Take me back to

the fisherman's hut. Take me back to Oliver's house. I am not happy in the King's house."

And Taboret said to the King and all the great men of the country: "Do you like the Princess Ursula? Are you pleased with her?"

And the King and all the great men said: "No, no, we do not like her. Give us back our toy-princess."

Then Taboret took the head of the toy-princess and put it back. And the toy-princess said: "Thank you; just so."

And everyone in the King's house was very happy. They said: "Hear our Princess. She says 'Thank you, just so.' She will be a very good Queen."

Taboret took Ursula by the hand. They went over hills and forests and rivers. They came to the fisherman's house. Ursula became Oliver's wife. She was very happy. They had many children. The children played and made a noise; and they never said "Please," and they never said "Thank you."

QUESTIONS

1. *THROUGH THE FIRE*

1. Where did Jack live? 2. Why could not Jack walk? 3. Who was sitting on the fire? 4. The fairy said: "Do you want to see .....?" What?

1. What did Jack see on all sides? 2. What were the flowers made of? 3. What were the doors and windows made of?

1. What was the Princess's hair like? 2. Why was the Princess sad?

1. Why is the King angry with the Princess? 2. Whom does the King want the Princess to marry? 3. Where was Jack when he opened his eyes?

1. Who was sitting on top of the fire? 2. What must Jack put on the fire? 3. What did the Princess ask Jack to do? "Tell the ....."

1. What were the Prince's eyes like? 2. Who can help the Prince and Princess?

1. Whom will the Water-prince call? 2. With what was the far country covered?

1. How many things may Jack ask the Snow Man? 2. What must the Water-prince do?

1. Where was the Fire-princess? 2. The Water-prince said: "We shall each of us be ..... (*a*) ..... but we shall not ..... (*b*) ....."

1. What was there when the Prince took the Princess's hand?—"A great ....." 2. What were the Princess's eyes like?

1. Who came through the window? 2. What did the fairies bring to Jack?

1. Why could not Jack see the coat? 2. What could Jack do? 3. Jack said: "Thank you very much."—What did the fairies say?

2. *THE CAT WITH SHOES*

1. What did the man give to Tom? 2. What must Tom buy for the cat? (*a*) ..... (*b*) .....

1. What did the cat put in the bag? 2. What walked into the bag? 3. Where did the cat take the bag? 4. The cat said to the King: "I am....." Who?

1. What did the cat catch on the next day? 2. Where will the King ride?

1. What did the cat cry? 2. Where did the King see Tom?

1. Who lived in the big house? 2. What was he able to make himself into? 3. The cat said: "You cannot make yourself into a ....." What?

1. Into what did the giant make himself? 2. Then the cat said: "You cannot make yourself into a ....." What?

1. Who were coming along the road just then? 2. What did the cat show the King and Princess?

3. *THE VILLAGE OF GOLDEN SPIDER'S WEB*

1. What did the woman of the village make? 2. What will come in if you do not shut the door?

1. What did Florice's mother make? 2. Did her mother teach Florice how to make this?

1. What did the King want? 2. What will the King give for this?

1. How many hens had Florice? 2. Who said: "Psst!"?

1. Why could not Mr. Blackbird make the golden cloth? 2. Why could not Mrs. Cat make the golden cloth?

1. What came in? 2. Where did Mr. Blackbird go?

1. Whom will Percta call? 2. Where will the dog jump? 3. What did Florice see in the other room?

1. For what did the King give Florice much money? 2. Why will this year be very happy?

4. *THE BREAD OF UNHAPPINESS*

1. What does a baker make? 2. Where did the baker throw the bread?

1. What does the bread make everyone? 2. In what did the baker take the bread to the houses?

1. What was Mr. Aye? 2. Why was Mr. Aye happy?

1. What was Mr. Bee? 2. Why was Mr. Bee happy?

1. What did Mr. Cee make? 2. Why was Mr. Cee happy?

1. Why was the baker happy? 2. Where was the baker walking? 3. What did Mr. Aye, Mr. Bee and Mr. Cee say about the baker? "Why is ..... (*a*) ..... when we ..... (*b*) .....?"

1. What came out when the baker's house was burning? 2. What did Mr. Aye, Mr. Bee and Mr. Cee say when the fairy ran away? "We are all ..... (*a*) ..... we want ..... (*b*) ....." 3. What did they make for the baker? 4. "No days are ..... (*a*) ..... if we are ..... (*b*) ....."

5. *THE HEART OF PRINCESS ALICE*

1. Why was the Queen not a nice Queen? 2. Did the fairies like the Queen?

1. From whom will the fairy take something? 2. Something came out of the little child: (*a*) What did it look like? (*b*) Where did it go?

1. Who was sitting on the window? 2. Whom did Alice love?

1. What was the name of the Prince? 2. Who lived in the house on the top of the hill?

1. Where did Prince Peter go many times? 2. What things were there in one of the books?

1. What did Prince Peter ask the magician? 2. Whom will Prince Peter go to see?

1. What clothes did Prince Peter put on? 2. Where was Princess Alice? 3. What did Prince Peter ask the magician: "Why is Princess Alice.....?"

1. What did the fairy take away? 2. Where is the blue house? 3. What is outside the house?

1. What will the snake do after three years? 2. After how many days will the three years be done?

1. Who came to Peter? 2. What did she ask? 3. Did Peter speak to the Queen?

1. Of what was the door made? 2. What was there in the room? 3. What was there on the table?

1. Why were there many people in the street? 2. Who will marry Alice? 3. What did the servants say to Peter? "You cannot go in....."

1. Where did Prince Peter sit? 2. Who was with the King?

6. *SIEGFRID AND HANDA*

1. Where was the village? 2. Who was Ralph? 3. What did John make?

1. What had the ugly old man on his back? 2. What did Lisbeth buy? 3. What was the name of Lisbeth's friend?

1. Why did not Ralph know how to get food? 2. By what were the trees and flowers killed?

1. Next day who had gone? 2. Who was still left in the village? 3. What did Siegfrid give to Handa?

1. What did Siegfrid see in the forest? 2. Where was the rabbit sitting? 3. Where are the little girls?

1. What must Siegfrid put on the top of the big stone? 2. What will Siegfrid see in the place where the fire was?

1. Who will help Siegfrid to get all the shoes? 2. Where did Siegfrid put the shoes?

1. What did Siegfrid see in the hole? 2. The little girls looked as if they were ..... What?

1. Why did not the people kill the ugly little old man? 2. Who married Handa?

7. *THE HIDDEN PRINCESS*

1. What did Princess Ann love doing? 2. What prince will Ann marry? 3. How many princes came each day?

1. Was John rich? 2. Where did John sit down? 3. Who came along the road?

1. How many princes were looking for the Princess? 2. What did not the other prince (prince 8) show?

1. Where was the Princess? 2. What did the princess's children love doing?

8. *ALI AND THE PARROT*

1. Why could not the bird run away? 2. Where did Ali take the bird?

1. Where did Ali sit? 2. What did Ali's father say?

1. What was the name of Ali's brother? 2. What did Abdul take into the forest? 3. What will the bird make Abdul do?

1. Did Abdul speak English? 2. Did the other boys find the bird?

9. *THE TOY-PRINCESS*

1. With what do children play? 2. What do children do with toys? 3. Where do you buy toys?

1. Who was Taboret? 2. What did the King do when the Queen made a noise? 3. What was the name of the little princess?

1. Had the Princess any toys? 2. What did the King say to the Princess when she talked? "Speak ....." 3. Who came to see the Princess?"

1. Where did Taboret go? 2. What did Taboret want?

1. Where will Taboret take Ursula? 2. What will Taboret put in Ursula's bed?

1. As Ursula grew up what did the toy-princess do? 2. What did the toy-princess say? 3. What did Oliver want to do?

1. Where was the King sitting? 2. Who will be Queen? 3. What did Taboret say to the King? "That is not ..... (*a*) ..... it is ..... (*b*) ....."

1. What did the King tell the servant to do? 2. What did Taboret do to the toy-princess?

1. Where did Ursula come? 2. Where did Ursula run? 3. Did the people in the King's house like Ursula?

1. Was Ursula happy in the King's house? 2. Taboret said to Ursula: "Do you want to be in the King's house?" What did Ursula answer? 3. Taboret said to the King: "Do you like the Princess?" What did the King answer?

1. What did Taboret put back? 2. What did the toy-princess say? 3. What did Ursula become?

List of extra words

4	baker	8	parrot
3	blackbird	9	play
1	fireworks	5	snake
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		9	toy
		9	toyshop
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4	oven	3	web
		1	wind

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Note: Words outside the vocabulary for Stage 1 are shown by a star* and are listed at the end of the book

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